Vol. 14. Numb. 8

The Athenian Mercury:

Saturday, *June* 9. 1694.

Queſt. 1. *BEing a great Lover of Reading, eſpecially your Mercuries, and finding great ſatisfaction in the Anſwers and Queſtions, prompts me to deſire you to reſolve one grand important Queſtion, the which I have been of a long time deſirous to know, which is, that in all ſorts of Publick Paintings of Men and Women, I have not ſeen a Woman,* &c?

Anſw. Sir, you as much ſhow your Civility in your Queſtion as your Judgment in admiring our *Mercury*, and the Strength and Beauty of your Style in this ſhort Eſſay you have given us of it. We might, you know, put you off with a *lame Anſwer*, and decide the *grand important Queſtion* as *Sancha* did the *weightieſt Cauſes* brought before him, by meer *dint* of *Proverb*, telling you 'twas becauſe the *Painter pleaſes*: But to give you a more grave and becoming Reply, our Judgment is that the thing you wot of really happens, becauſe even Painters themſelves have more Modeſty than he that asks the Queſtion.

Queſt. 2. *When ſhall I be marry'd? — that's ſhort and ſweet?*

Anſw. When you can find any that's Fool enough to have ye —— that's *ſhort* and *ſowr*.

Queſt. 3. *There's a Gentleman who has had his Wife gone from him ſeven Years and better, and he thinks it now Lawful and needful to Marry and live honeſt; at preſent he makes honourable Love to a Gentlewoman who has a good Fortune, and is a modeſt Woman, ſhe's loth to venture on him, tho' ſhe's inclin'd very much to love him, becauſe ſhe knows his former Wife left him, and he has ſince Convers'd with other Mens Wives: He is of Quality, or pretends to be: Your Advice is ſpeedily deſired?*

Anſw. And let it be as ſpeedy as 'twill, ten to one it comes too late: We can only ſay, if the Lady be but as wiſe as the Queriſt affirms her Modeſt, ſhe'll not long deliberate what ſhe ought to do, nor any longer queſtion whether ſhe ought to reject a Confeſs'd Notorious *Adulterer*; all his *Quality*, it ſeems, that ſhe's certain of.

Queſt. 4. *Whether the young Gentleman mentioned in your late Mercury, who hath but* 20 l. *to put him forth to a Trade, be capable of being an* Attorneys Clerk? *If he be, there's a Perſon of no mean Buſineſs who wants a Clerk will take him, if he likes him, and therefore if he'd publiſh his Name, and where he may be ſpoken with, he ſhall be ſent to for that purpoſe.*

Anſw. Firſt and foremoſt, take notice, Gentle Reader, that this is the *Athenian*, not the *City Mercury*, and as we have all the reaſon in the World to believe, they'll never Interlope with us, we are reſolv'd not to do ſo with them: Nor, for the future, will for that reaſon inſert any Queries of this Nature. But becauſe we have mention'd the young Gentleman's caſe already, are willing to make an end on't, and therefore inſert this Query here, to which he and his Friends are beſt able to return an Anſwer.

Queſt. 5. *Some time ſince it was my ill-hap to be in Company with one who was noted for telling Fortunes, and being deſirous to know mine, I had my Wiſh, but 'twas ſo very bad that if it proves true 'twill be my utter Ruine: I therefore deſire your Judgment, whether 'tis in the Power of any man to foretell things of this Nature, which will extreamly vex one who is in the moſt lamentable Condition for fear it ſhou'd prove true?*

Anſw. You mean, we ſhou'd Eaſe you, if our Judgment be there's nothing in't, tho' ſince you have had no more Wit than to bring this trouble on your ſelf, it's almoſt pity you ſhou'd be helpt out on't: However, in hopes you and others will learn more Wit and Grace for the future, we refer you to our large Diſcourſes formerly on *Judicial Aſtrology*, which you may find by the *Indexes* to our *Mercuries*.

Queſt. 6. *'Tis my Misfortune to have Contracted my ſelf to a young Lady, whom I always believ'd Virtuous, but am ſince credibly inform'd of the contrary: I deſire your Advice, whether I'm oblig'd to perform the Contract? and if not, in what manner I may handſomly get free?*

Anſw. Be as ſure as you can that the Report ben't a Scandal, and the Lady *wrong'd*, for there may poſſibly be Practice in the Caſe, and a deſign to hinder your obtaining her; and if you are ſatisfy'd of this, you may if you think fit ſend her this *Mercury* as a *final Adieu*.

Queſt. 7. *In the Romiſh Church it's common for the People to do Penance by Whipping themſelves, and ſeveral other ways:* Query, *Whether 'tis a Sin for a Man to do ſo by himſelf, provided it is not to appeaſe the Wrath of God, nor Merit any thing, but meerly to keep the Body under, which the Apoſtle took ſuch Pains to do: Pray Anſwer this ſeriouſly, and without a Feſt, as 'twas intended, which will Oblige yours,* &c?

Anſw. We will be Grave then: And firſt as to the *Uſe* on't in the *Romiſh Church*, We are apt to believe *down-right Flogging* is not ſo much in Faſhion as formerly, that Church having now a ſet of *gentler Caſuiſts* than the old *Monks* and *Hermits*. For the Merits of the Cauſe it ſelf, before the Queriſt tries the Experiment, he wou'd do well to be ſatisfy'd whether inſtead of keeping the Body under, *Whipping* wou'd not have the quite contrary effect, at leaſt he'll find *Meibomius* of that Opinion, if he'll take the Pains to read him. But ſuppoſing it won'd, if well follow'd, have the effect the Queriſt hopes for, there are certainly other more *humane Methods* which wou'd be as ſucceſsful. *Faſting* ſoundly, eſpecially in our Cold *Climate*, wou'd mortifie even a Body of Iron; but neither in that ought we to be immoderate, or unreaſonably torment the Body, which, for all *Plato*, is an eſſential part of the Man as well as the Soul, and will have an equal ſhare in Eternal Happineſs: Nor can the Deity even delight in, or be pleas'd with ſuch Bloody Sacrifices, which were found fault with, even by the wiſeſt and beſt Natur'd among the Heathens; for St. *Paul* his keeping under his Body, it can never be ſtretcht to that Sence wherein ſome wou'd take it; 'tis true he was twice Beaten with Rods, and thrice ſcourg'd by the *Jews*, but not once by himſelf that ever we read of; nay, he was ſo far from this, that he pleaded the Priviledge of being a *Roman* to excuſe himſelf from agen ſuffering it: He bids us indeed mortifie Fornication, Uncleanneſs, Inordinate Affections, and root out and *keep them down* as much as poſſible, the meaning very probably of that other Phraſe, *keeping his Body under*, and this he did himſelf by earneſt *Prayer*, and likely enough by *Faſting* too, which he joins together in his Epiſtle to the *Corinthians*, the latter of which ſeems that *Bodily Exerciſe* he mentions in another place, and tells *Timothy* 'tis profitable for a *little*, but prefers inward Piety and Godlineſs much before it. And when he himſelf had a Meſſenger of Satan ſent to buffet him, we read not that he went to Whip him out, but Pray'd him out: And the ſame Method ought any honeſt man to make uſe of in the ſame Condition, the contrary to which we think a great Sin rather than a Duty.

Queſt. 8. *What was that Light which was Created before the Sun?*

Anſw.

Answ. See our *Index*, and you'll find this already Answer'd.

Quest. 9. I'm a young man who have suffer'd extreamly by a wicked, knavish and perjur'd Executor, who imbezel'd a great part of the Estate my Father left me, and took no Care to put me to any Trade whereby I cou'd get my Living. To redress which, when a *Minor*, I chose a near Relation for my Guardian, but he, contrary to my Knowledge was so poor as not to be able to give any great Sum with me to a good Trade, and to a mean Merchant he was not willing, so that between both I was set to none at all. When I came to age, I found that of a 100. *l. per annum*, I had not above 30 left: After some years continuance in a single state, I at last find my self obliged to marry, and have endeavour'd to make the most prudent choice of a Wife I cou'd possibly. And considering the misfortunes I've met with in the world, and how little there's left from the Oppressors Hands, I am the rather induc'd to take a wife with little, if pious and dutiful, than one with a great Fortune, and the hazard whether she'll condescend to live as frugally as my circumstances require. However, my Relations it seems like not my Proceedings, or choice — *I therefore desire your opinion, Whether considering my Circumstances, I have done wisely or not, in chusing a pious, humble, dutiful and loving Wife, descended of a good Family, tho' of small Fortunes, before a Rich one that had none of these good Qualities?*

Answ. Yes undoubtedly for many good Reasons, the first, (and there's no need to go any further,) because ten to one whether a Woman with a Fortune wou'd have you, and 'tis very seldom people make a Marriage on't where neither party's willing. 'Tis true if your Friends cou'd have found you a Wife with all those Qualifications you have nam'd, and rich besides, that addition wou'd have done no hurt. But rich and humble don't often go together, especially in such Circumstances, for honest *Ecclesiasticus* is for the most part in the right on't — "That a Woman if she main-"tain her Husband, is full of Anger, Impudency and "much Reproach.

Advertisements.

☞ NExt *Week will be published*, Remarks *on a late Discourse of* William *Lord Bishop of* Derry, *concerning the Inventions of Men in the Worship of God. By the Reverend* J. Boyse. *Printed for* John Dunton *and* John Lawrence.

☞ THere *having been several false Accounts printed concerning Mr.* Mason, *late Minister of* Water-Stratford *in the County of* Bucks. *This is to give Notice that there will speedily be Published a* True *and* Full Narrative *of his Life and Death, with an Historical Account of what has past there for some time, drawn up by a Reverend Divine who was a frequent Visiter of him during his Sickness. Licensed and Entered, and Printed for* John Lawrence *at the* Angel, *and* John Dunton *at the* Raven *in the* Poultrey, *and* William Lindsey *in* Chancery-Lane *near* Lincolns-Inn.

☞ A *Treatise is Printed lately at* Paris, *and Reprinted at* Amsterdam, *entituled*, The Knowledge of the World, or the Art of Well Educating Youth, *&c. to be continu'd Monthly till the whole Design is finished. In Form of Letters. The first of which will come out in the beginning of* June (*being Licensed and Entered in the Hall-Book*) *Printed for* John Dunton *at the* Raven *in the* Poultrey.

A Remedy against Trouble: In a Discourse on *John* 14. 1. Wherein something is also briefly attempted for clearing the nature of Faith; of Justification; Of the Covenant of Grace; Assurance; the Witness, Seal and Earnest of the Spirit. And Preparation for Conversation; or the Necessity of Holiness. By *H. Lukin. London*, Printed for *Thomas Cockeril* at the *Three Legs* in the *Poultrey* over-against the *Stocks-Market*. 1694.

THe Bounds set to *France* by the *Pyrenean Treaty*; and the Interest of the Confederates not to accept of the Offers of Peace made at this time by the *French* King. To which are added some short Reflections; shewing how far *England* is concern'd in the Restitution of that Treaty. Together with a List of the Towns and Countries that the *French* have taken since that Time. *London*, Printed for *R. Baldwin*, at the *Oxford-Arms* in *Warwick Lane*. 1694.

☞ ΘΕΟΛΟΒΟΤΟΝΟΛΟΓΙΑ *sive Historia Vegetabilium Sacra:* Or a Scripture Herbal; Wherein, all the Trees, Shrubs, Herbs, Plants, Flowers, Fruits, *&c.* Both Foreign and Native, that are mentioned in the *Holy Bible*, (being near Eighty in Number) are in an Alphebetical Order, rationally discoursed of. The whole being adorned with variety of Matter, and Observations, not only Medicinal, but Relating to the Alimental and Mechanical Uses of the Plants, fit for Divines, and all Persons of any other Profession and Calling whatsoever. By *William Westmacott* of the Borough of *Newcastle* under *Line*, in the County of *Stafford*, Physician. *London*, Printed for *T. Salusbury*, at the *King's-Arms* next St. *Dunstans-Church* in *Fleet-street*, 1694.

AT Mr. *Saunders* a Joiner in *Blew Cross-street* in the *Blew Meuse* near *Leicester-fields*, lodgeth a Gentlewoman that cures all sorts of sore Eyes, she hath had above thirty years Experience and such Success, that when Persons have tried all others she hath seldom failed, as she can direct you to divers that can attest the Truth of what she here alledgeth.

THis is to give Notice that Mr. *Spackman*, Mr. *Smith*, Mr. *Wilson*, Mr. *Marmion*, Mr. *Ragdal*, and Mr. *Lupert*, being the several Goldsmiths concerned in the Sale of Plate and Jewels, *&c.* To the Value of 2500 *l.* did according to their Printed Proposals meet on the first of *June*, now last past, to appoint a Time and Place for drawing the Tickets, and accordingly they have appointed *Monday* the 23*d.* of *July* next, to draw the same, in the *Quest House* of St. *Dunstans* in the *West* in *Fleet street*, by Eight of the Clock in the Forenoon; the whole number of Tickets not being disposed of, all Persons who are willing to be adventurers therein, are desired in the mean time to send for Numbered Tickets unto the said several Goldsmiths, where they may be furnished until the time of Drawing, and the fortunate may send for their Prizes three days after the Sale is over, unto the several Goldsmiths where they bought their Tickets.

THe Sale of Starling Plate design'd to be on the 28*th.* instant in *Charles-street Covent Garden*, being not quite full, will be on the 27*th.* of *June* next, the Books to be shut on the 14*th.* Tickets may be had of Mr. *John Bowman* at the *Flower-de-Luce* near the *New-Exchange* in the *Strand*, Mr. *Robert Cole* at the *Anchor* over against St. *Dunstan's-Church* in *Fleet street*, Mr. *John Foden* at the *Golden Faulcon* near *Fetter-lane-end* in *Holborn*, Mr. *John Burningham* at the *Black-Raven* in *Newgate-street*, Mr. *Samuel Layfield* at the *White Horse* in *Lumbard-street*, Mr. *Edward Barsham* at *Ratcliff-Cross*, Mr. *Andrew de Cayne* at *Bishops-gate*, Mr. *Makepeace Halloway* at the Sign of the *Cup* in *Leaden-hall-street* near *Aldgate*, Mr. *John Wilkinson* in *Kings-street* near the *Abby*, *Westminster*, Mr. *Moses Sykamore* at the *Star* on St. *Margaret's-Hill* in *Southwark*, Goldsmiths; Mr. *Jonathan Milner* in *Popes-head-Alley* near the *Royal-Exchange*, Mr. *James Brindley* at the Corner of *Fetter-lane* in *Fleet-street*; and Mr. *Marshal Smiths* next *Bedford-gate* in *Charles-street*, *Covent-Garden*, where the Tickets are to be drawn

ON Ludgate-Hill, *next Door to the* King's-Arms *Tavern near* Fleet-Bridge, *any person may be furnished with a Water for taking away the* Freckles, Pimples, Worms and Morphew in the Face, Elixir Salutis, Balsamum Vitæ Tinctura Vitæ. *An excellent Water and Ointment for the Eyes. Ointments for the Rickets, Burns, Scalds, Wounds, Aches, Sprains, &c. Powders, Dentrifices, Elixers, Essences, Oils, Spirits, &c. For the easing and curing of most Distempers incident to humane Bodies. Prepared and Sold by* B. L.

LONDON, Printed for **John Dunton** at the *Raven* in the *Poultrey*. 1694.